

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Scott Fuller et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/758,827

FILED: January 15, 2004

FOR: METHOD OF IMPROVING THE SHELF LIFE
OF A BLANK PHOTOMASK SUBSTRATE

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 1756

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§ EXAMINER: N. M. Barreca

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§ Attorney Docket No.:

§ AM-5852.D1

Date: December 14, 2004

**AMENDMENT "B" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

**Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

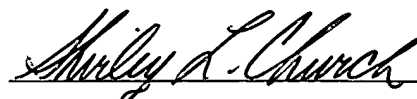
Sir:

Transmitted herewith is applicants' Amendment "B" in response to the Office Action mailed August 31, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response of November 31, 2004. A Petition for a One Month Extension of Time to reply accompanies this Amendment "B", to extend the time for response through December 31, 2004.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ED273473608 US in an envelope addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment (With Fee), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: December 14, 2004


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	<u>CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT</u>		<u>HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR</u>		<u>PRESENT EXTRA</u>		<u>RATE</u>	<u>ADDITIONAL FEE</u>
TOTAL CLAIMS	11	minus	31	=	0	x	\$50.00	\$ 00.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2	minus	3	=	0	x	\$200.00	\$ 00.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			0				\$360.00	\$ 00.00
ONE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME								\$ 120.00
							TOTAL FEE DUE	\$120.00

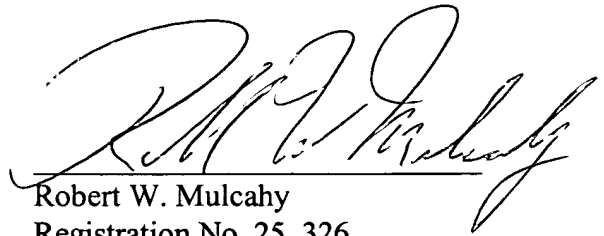
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$120.00 in payment of the fee due for the One Month Extension of Time, as well as any additional fees which may be due in connection with the filing of this amendment, and to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1074 of Applied Materials, Inc., Santa Clara, California.

This transmittal letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

Attorney Docket No. AM-5852 D1

U .S. Express Mail No. ED273473608 US

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. W. Mulcahy", written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Mulcahy
Registration No. 25, 326
Attorney for Applicants

Correspondence Address:
Patent Counsel
Applied Materials, Inc.
P.O. Box 450-A
Santa Clara, California 95052



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INVENTOR APPLICATION OF: Scott Fuller et al.

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AMENDMENT "B" UNDER 37.C.F.R. § 1.111

**Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

Sir:


This Amendment "B" is in response to the Office Action mailed on August 31, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response of November 31, 2004. A petition for a One Month Extension of Time to respond accompanies this Amendment "B", to extend the time for response to December 31, 2004.

Claims 16 - 35 are pending in the application.

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Claims 24 and 32 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form.

Claims 16 - 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 16 - 18, 20 - 21, 23 - 24, 28 - 29, and 31 - 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Montgomery et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,605,394.)

Claims 16 and 18 - 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tan (U.S. Patent No. 6,200,736) in view of Capodiecici (U.S. Patent No. 5,717,612).

Please amend the application as follows.